

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : Thomson, D. et al) Art Unit: 1636
U.S. Appln. No. : 10/029,720) Examiner: Akhavan, Ramin
U.S. Filing Date : December 20, 2001
Confirmation No. : 3886
Title of Invention : Dissociated glucocorticoid receptor antagonists for the treatment of
glucocorticoid associated side effects
Docket No. : 1/1180

Mail Stop Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This Reply is filed in response to the Office Action dated March 10, 2004. Submitted herewith is a Petition for Extension of Time for three (3) months up to and including July 10, 2004, together with the necessary fee.

The Examiner alleged that the claims of the instant application include five independent and distinct inventions as follows:

- Group I: claims 1 and 2, drawn to a glucocorticoid receptor (GR) ligand that is not {3,5-dibromo-4-[5-isopropyl-4-methoxy-2-(3-methyl-benzoyl-phenoxy)]phenyl}-acetic acid;
- Group II: claims 7 and 8, drawn to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a glucocorticoid receptor (GR) ligand that is {3,5-dibromo-4-[5-isopropyl-4-methoxy-2-(3-methyl-benzoyl-phenoxy)]phenyl}-acetic acid;
- Group III: Claims 3, 4, 9-14, and 21, drawn to methods of a group of diseases where a GR ligand is used with a glucocorticoid drug;
- Group IV: Claims 15-18, drawn to a method of screening for GR antagonist ligand *in vitro*; and
- Group V: Claims 19-20, drawn to a method of screening for GR antagonist ligand *in vivo* and where the method is a high-throughput assay.

In response to this restriction requirement, applicants hereby elect without traverse to prosecute in this application the subject matter of Group IV, claims 15-18.

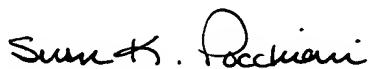
Applicants reserve the right to prosecute in one or more divisional applications whatever subject matter is not examined or allowed here.

Applicants respectfully submit that all the pending claims are allowable and therefore solicit a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would be helpful in advancing prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney below.

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On July 1, 2004.



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Respectfully submitted,



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